

**Milnerton Racecourse Conservation Area
MONTHLY EMS REPORT**

MRNR  **EMS**
Conservation

REPORT No.: 47

PERIOD: June 2011

DATE: 25 June 2011

CONTRACTS MANAGEMENT

1

- ✘ On the 8th June, CoCT assisted in planting the firebreak with *Carpobrotus edulis*.

INVASIVE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

2

- ✘ Cleared *Typha capensis* in the northern area firebreak of the is regrowing.
- ✘ Six *Persicaria* plants were handpulled within Burn Block 2.
- ✘ Monitoring of woody aliens within MRNR underway. Follow up to be undertaken during July.
- ✘ Kikuyu is invading large sections of the northern area. Selective Focus Ultra to be sourced to control invasion during winter while kikuyu is visible. KR & SG to liaise with Louise Stafford.
- ✘ Alvin Randle has authorised the creation of a 1m buffer zone along the edge of the track where it borders the Northern Area. It will be cleared of Kikuyu and planted with *Carpobrotus sp.* Kikuyu sods to be reused by Gold Circle. An iron barrier separating the buffer zone from the northern area will be installed after the 2012 burn.

FIRE MANAGEMENT

3

- ✘ Monitoring of post fire flora species is underway.
- ✘ Clearing of the firebreak will continue during Jan/Feb 2012 along Stable Yard and The Met.

REHABILITATION

4





- ✘ On the 8th June CoCT assisted in planting areas of the firebreak bordering onto Stable Yard with *Carpobrotus edulis*. Due to the saturated soil, planting of the entire firebreak on the Stable Yard Boundary is achievable.



INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT

5

- ✘ Detention ponds:

Pond 1	Pond 2	Pond 3	Pond 4
			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter • Aquatic weeds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscaping refuse • Path repairs underway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landscaping refuse • Litter • Aquatic weeds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paving to be repaired

- ✘ **Toilet:** Has been serviced and cleaned out.
- ✘ **Stormwater outlets:** All outlets are clear of vegetation and open.
- ✘ **Signage & Fences:** No vandalism or other damages noted.
- ✘ **Path maintenance:** Path maintenance to be undertaken during July.

FAUNA MANAGEMENT & OBSERVATIONS

6

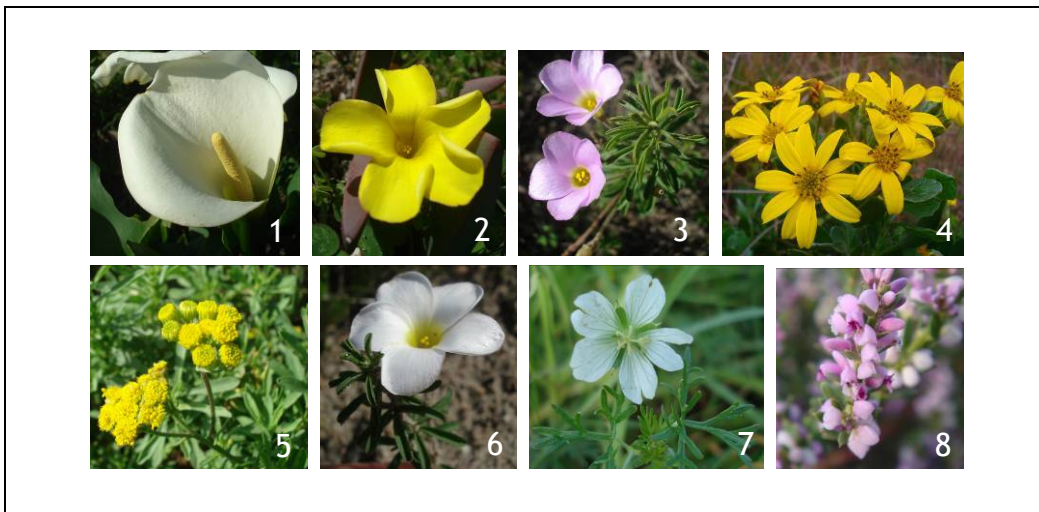
- ✘ During June the monthly avifauna count was undertaken by Helm van Zijl both the northern and southern areas. Sightings for June have been uploaded onto the CoCT Biodiversity Database by RM.
- ✘ Surveys will be undertaken on a regular basis to prevent species captured CoCT Biodiversity Database from becoming extinct due to the lack of recorded sightings.

BIOLOGICAL MONITORING

7

Vegetation:

- ✘ **Vegetation:** Some species observed during this month.



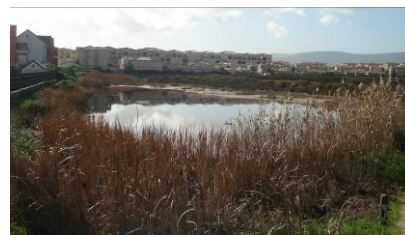
1) *Zantedeschia aethiopica*, 2) *Oxalis pes-caprae*, 3) *Oxalis pusilla*, 4) *Chrysanthemoides monilifera* 5) *unidentified sp*, 6) *Oxalis hirta*, 7) *Geranium incanum*, 8) *Muraltia sp*

Water:

- ✘ Fixed point photography of the wetlands for 20June 2011.



Wetland 1



Wetland 2



Dam

- ✘ Wetland 1 & 2 are still at its lowest volume since monitoring commenced in 2008.
- ✘ Rain gauge data supplied by Niel van Wyk records 70mm.

Measured in cm	Wetland 1 (Southern Conservation Area)					Wetland 2 (Northern Conservation Area)				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Jan		114	76	67	18		31	34	47.5	29
Feb		61	46	44.2	0.5		1	12	29	1.5
Mar		53	28	25	0		0	0	13	0
Apr		35	18	13	0		0	5	3	0
May		22	37	35.6	0		1	33	46.6	4
Jun		59	69	70	14		51	62	71.8	43
Jul	123	153	143	35.6		82	94	102	46.6	
Aug	150+	155	145	123.6		101	95.5	107	105	
Sep	150+	187	161.5	112.5		97	101.5	150+	93	
Oct	150+	160.5	143.5	95.5		83	91.5	150+	84	
Nov	150+	139.5	138	75.5		68	77	92	71	
Dec	135	108	91	46.75		52	58.5	69	45	

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

8

- ✘ Articles that have appeared in the local press, Table Talk and Tygerburger, include:
 - Table Bay Nature Reserve proclaimed, 8 June 2011
 - Grysbok population growing, 8 June 2011
- ✘ A school holiday programme focusing on the Small “Big Five” of Milnerton will be undertaken on the 8th July at MRNR or Milnerton Library, weather dependent.
- ✘

GENERAL INFORMATION / OBSERVATIONS / MEETINGS

9

- ✘ On the 8th June KR & SG met to discuss preparations for the 2012 burn.

ITEMS TO BE ADDRESSED IN THE UPCOMING MONTHS

10

Regular monthly / bi-monthly tasks		
✘ Path maintenance & ad hoc alien clearing	✓	Ongoing
✘ Vegetation & water level monitoring / bird counts		
✘ Finalising TBNR IRMP		Ongoing
✘ Fish species survey		July
✘ Amphibian survey		July
✘ School Holiday Program		8 July
✘ Red data species condition		July/Aug
✘ Flora transect survey		Aug/Sep/Oct
✘ Handpull <i>Vicia</i>		Aug/Sep
✘ Grysbok reintroduction		2011
✘ Large mammal Night Game Drive		2011
✘ MRNR Annual Review/Newsletter		Dec